

Message Text

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ACTION EA-12

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C O N F I D E N T I A L PEKING 2845

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: CH, US, OEXC, PINT, ELAB
SUBJECT: PROVINCIAL OBSERVATIONS: TSINGTAO, YENTAI AND TALIAN

1. SUMMARY. USLO OFFICER TRAVELING TO TSINGTAO, YENTAI AND TALIAN AUGUST 25-SEPTEMBER 1 FOUND NO OUTWARD SIGNS OF POLITICAL ACTIVITY BUT WAS ASSURED BY LOCAL SOURCES THAT RECTIFICATION OF GANG OF FOUR ADHERENTS WAS PROCEEDING. ECONOMIC REFORMS - PARTICULARLY IN THE AYE OF LABOR DISCIPLINE -- ASSOCIATED WITH TENG HSIAO-PING WERE TOUTED BY FACTORY OFFICIALS. A MIDDLE SCHOOL VISITED IN YANTAI LOOKED AS IF CULTURAL REVOLUTION HAD NEVER TAKEN PLACE. END SUMMARY.

2. USLO OFFICER TRAVELING TO TSINGTAO, YENTAI AND TALIAN AUGUST 25-SEPTEMBER 1 FOUND NO OUTWARD SIGNS OF POLITICAL ACTIVITY EXCEPT IN TALIAN WHERE RECENT WALLPOSTERS RECITING INDIVIDUAL GRIEVANCES AGAINST LOCAL OFFICIALDOM SEEMED TO BE ATTRACTING LITTLE
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INTEREST. CHINA TRAVEL SERVICE GUIDES AND TWO FACTORY OFFICIALS IN TSINGTAO AND YANTAI SAID THAT LACK OF POSTERS IN THESE TWO CITIES SHOULD NOT BE TAKEN FOR LACK OF POLITICAL ACTIVITY BENEATH THE SURFACE. RECTIFICATION OF FOLLOWERS OF THE GANG OF FOUR WAS PROCEEDING IN MOST PLACES, ACCORDING TO THESE SOURCES.

3. SIDEWALK HAWKERS SEEMED TO BE ACTIVE IN ALL THREE CITIES. THEY WERE PARTICULARLY PREVALENT IN TSINGTAO WHERE PREVIOUS TRAVELERS HAVE ALSO NOTED UNUSUALLY ACTIVE INFORMAL ECONOMIC ACTIVITY. BESIDES VEGETABLES AND HOUSEWARES, USLO OFFICER NOTED ONE HAWKER SURROUNDED BY A SMALL CROWD FRANTIC TO BUY FOOT-HIGH PLASTER REPLICAS OF THE VENUS DE MILO.

4. REVOLUTIONARY COOMITTEES HAD BEEN ABOLISHED IN SIX OF SEVEN INDUSTRIAL ENTERPRISES VISITED. EXCEPTION WAS CARPET FACTORY IN TSINGTAO WHERE BRIEFER SAID THAT "PLANS WERE BEING PREPARED" FOR ABOLITION OF REVOLUTIONARY COMMITTEE. IN TALIEH TEXTILE FACTORY FORMER CHAIRMAN OF THE REVOLUTIONARY COMMITTEE HAD BECOME PARTY SECRETARY AND SENIOR VICE CHAIRMAN WAS REDESIGNATED PLANT DIRECTOR AND VICE PARTY SECRETARY.

5. NEW EMPHASIS ON LABOR DISCIPLINE CITED BY ALL FACTORY BRIEFERS WAS EVIDENT IN PROMINENTLY DISPLAYED WORK RULES AND REGULATIONS IN SEVERAL PLANTS. ALTHOUGH WORKERS DID NOT SEEM TO BE STRAINING THEMSELVES ANY HARDER THAN USUAL, THERE DID APPEAR TO BE A TENDENCY UNUSUAL FOR CHINESE FACTORIES FOR MACHINE OPERATORS TO SNAP TO IN THE PRESENCE OF SUPERVISORS. TENGHSIAO-PING WAS UNIVERSALLY IDENTIFIED WITH NEW

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EMPHASIS ON HARD WORK; HIS RISES AND FALLS WERE IDENTIFIED BY TSINGTAO LOCOMOTIVTLFACTORY OFFICIAL WITH UPS AND DOWNS IN PRODUCTIVITY.

6. MIDDLE SCHOOL VISITED IN YENTAI WAS ONE OF TWO IN WHANTUNG PROVINCE RECENTLY EQUIPPED WITH CLOSED CIRCUIT TELEVISION. USLO OFFICER WAS GREETED WITH TV PERFORMANCE OF "WELCOME TO OUR AMERICAN FRIEND." SCHOOL HAS 18 CHINESE-MADE 24" TV SETS LINKED TO FIVE TRANSMITTERS TO BE USED, ACCORDING TO NEWLY REINSTATED PRINCIPAL, FOR SPREADING SCARCE RESOURCES IN LANGUAGE AND SCIENCE TEACHING.

7. STUDENTS' CLASS PERIODS HAVE BEEN RECENTLY EXTENDED TO THIRTY SESSIONS EACH WEEK. FOUR SENIOR TEACHERS MET BY USLO OFFICER HAD ALL BEEN REAPPOINTED TO MIDDLE SCHOOL POSITIONS AFTER TEN YEARS IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS AND FACTORIES.

8. SCHOOL OFFICIALS WERE WELL AWARE OF CENTRAL GOVERNMENT'S INTENTION TO SEND STUDENTS TO THE UNITED STATES. THEY WERE GRATEFUL FOR RECEIPT OF SAMPLE

BUNDLE OF ICA MATERIALS.

9. CROPS SEEN DURING TSINGTAO-YENTAI TRAIN TRIP
AUGUST 28 LOOKED TO BE IN EXCELLENT SHAPE. ABOUT
ONE THIRD OF CORN HAD BEEN HARVESTED.

10. MILITARY OBSERVATIONS WILL BE SENT BY SEPTTEL TO
DLO HONG KONG.
WOODCOCK

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